

Request for Remote Public Input for House Select Committee on COVID-19 Public Comments Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/15/2020 03:18 PM	Education Working Group	Todd Slater	While I miss my students dearly I am not seeing the advantages of opening schools for 1-3 weeks, depending on district, and having students AND teachers contracting and spreading this virus. We are in too close of contact with each other not to. Yes younger generations might not have the severe symptoms but they sure do go home to those that do. Plus a lot of my kids have underlying health issues and a lot of the teachers I work with are older teachers with underlying health issues.
04/15/2020 03:51 PM	Education Working Group	ms. susan griffin	Please do not reopen our state. Please follow the course of action we prudently began in response to Covid-19. To re-open will place our limited resources under strain. It is taking a fatal toll upon the health care providers of the "hots spots". It would adversely impact our resident population and inspire others to travel from elsewhere to our state to gain release from restrictions in their own states. It will put not only elderly at risk but place a currently, unknown health, financial, and industrial burden upon younger generations as nearly 40% infected are under 50 yrs. of age. The fatality and long term costs will be far greater and last far longer than needed if we reopen at this time. Be wise, be smart, and good stewards of both our land and especially of our people. We had it tough 250 years ago but North Carolinians led the way and stood independent and firm in the face of the nay-sayers then, let us stand firmly on the side of what truly benefits our peoples currently, and more importantly for our youngest citizens. Do not make them carry the financial or emotional burden of exposure to the foolish, make them the sturdy, knowledgeable leaders of common sense for the common good. It's our heritage to lead and provide an example. If our state founders could hold out for 13 months waiting for the other colonies to reach a consensus back in 1775 then surely we should have the fortitude and wisdom to be able to do the same now. Stand up for our people first, we will work out the rest when we can do so safely.
04/15/2020 03:55 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Sandra Ricci	<p>Covid-19, Covid-19 Subcommittee Education</p> <p>Dear Sir/Madam,,</p> <p>The Washington Post dated 4/13/2020 reported that due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. Based on the experience from Covid-19, we are requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can occur again, wouldn't it make sense to develop and implement a system for all schools to use that would provide a continuation of education and related services for students, should the need arise? Continuity of education and related services for students should be a priority, as these young people are our future.</p> <p>Right now, as in many cities and communities throughout the US, not every child has access to a computer and / or the internet at home to be able to access distance-learning education. This needs to change, and can be by creating partnerships between the school</p>

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04/15/2020 04:00 PM	Education Working Group	Stacy Lyerly	I value a data/science driven approach to reopening and remind them that the virus determines the timeline, not protests or political special interests.
04/15/2020 04:11 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Jade Dell	<p>Dear Chairman Berger,</p> <p>Due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. I am requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can occur again, wouldn't it make sense to develop and implement a system for all schools to use that would provide a continuation of education and related services for students, should the need arise? Continuity of education and related services for students should be a priority, as these young people are our future.</p> <p>Right now, as in many cities and communities throughout the US, not every child has access to a computer and / or the internet at home to be able to access distance-learning education. This needs to change, and can be by creating partnerships between the school system(s) and telecommunication. For example, MCPS in Maryland and FCPS in Virginia, school systems are partnering with telecommunication companies (Verizon, AT &T, etc...) to provide basic internet access in student homes that have no internet. School systems are loaning chromebooks (Acer computers) that are signed out to each student to be used during this remote distance learning period. The New York Times, and other businesses are offering support, access, and monies to communities that need help in setting up these distance-learning systems. MCPS and FCPS have been very creative in developing / presenting online curriculum using different programs and platforms, some of which</p>

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04/15/2020 04:17 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Bridgette Wagner	<p>I believe in our doctors and experts when they say this is a crucial time for us to be staying home. We need to continue to social distance and keep businesses closed until we flatten the curve, and even then, move slowly toward reopening everything. As Dr. Fauci stated, we must closely observe the data before making any calls as to when we should reopen. I think the #reopenNC movement is very dangerous and that our state government should refrain from caving any more to support this uninformed crowd of people. Reopening too quickly would lead to higher confirmed cases and deaths, effectively dampening the economy. We must look at staying home now and social distancing as an investment for the future economy of North Carolina. Please listen to the experts and educated doctors on this one. It is for the detriment of our public health. I do not want to see my children and my students (I am a college professor) feel pressured to return to unsafe conditions. Keep us home and keep us safe however long it's needed to protect the citizens of North Carolina.</p>
04/15/2020 04:24 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Pamela Wood	<p>Thank you Gov. Cooper for closing schools in a timely manner to protect our students and teachers. Please consider extending school closures for the remainder of the school year. As much as I miss my students right now, my concern for their health and the health of their extended families is greater. Many students have grandparents as caregivers and I fear for the health of these families. Many teachers have underlying health issues that will put them at greater risk if we return to the classroom too soon. Thank you for your hard work and continued support of education.</p>
04/15/2020 04:27 PM	Education Working Group	Retired School Ptincipal Timothy Smith	<p>I think it is not helpful for groups like Open North Carolina to exclude people who are trying to see all viewpoints. North Carolina may be a less populated area, but we are experiencing some outbreaks that are very concerning. Rowan County has experienced a surge in Covid 19 cases. We do not live in a bubble. Many individuals from Rowan and Cabarrus County work in Charlotte which is experiencing a large number of cases. Please consider this as you consider reopening NC. We haven't hit our peak yet! We are making progress.</p>
04/15/2020 04:54 PM	Education Working Group	Monica Bender	<p>If the closing of all schools for several weeks has shown us anything, it's how invaluable our teachers are! Please find the money to give these online heroes a pay raise!</p>
04/15/2020 05:14 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Geri Goldstein	<p>Gov Cooper is right to keep the stay at home orders in place until we have testing and know who's got the coronavirus and who is immune. We need to protect public health . Schools can't open until we know it's safe for students, teachers and support staff.</p>
04/15/2020 05:43 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Gina Guerrero	<p>Schools are a breeding ground for any virus. Teachers and other staff may have underlying conditions or be immune compromised, they need to be kept safe as well. There should be no movement on schools opening until we can insure that all people who work in a school</p>

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			can be kept safe.
04/15/2020 05:48 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Meredith Licht	Until we have a vaccine, we need to shelter in place. Until the most vulnerable—economically, physically—are protected, we need to shelter in place. Until we have a plan for health care for all our families and individuals who lack it, we need to shelter in place. The economy can wait. Humanity cannot.
04/15/2020 05:57 PM	Education Working Group	Me. Carrie Gallagher	I will stay safe in place until tested and the CDC says activities with groups and crowds are safe. Follow public health professionals' recommendations.
04/15/2020 05:58 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Carol Nelson	Our Internet infrastructure is greatly deficient and is keeping students and teachers from all being successful. Obviously, these stay at home orders are doing their jobs saving lives since congregations of people, like nursing homes and prisons, are hotspots. Thankfully, our schools being closed has prevented this scenario in the young. Please use this incident to ramp up equitable Internet access across N.C. I support social distancing and think it would be a grave mistake to change tactics just to open the economy. Every life saved matters.
04/15/2020 06:03 PM	Education Working Group	Mr. Christopher Daniels	Please do not relax restrictions until epidemiologists and physicians say that it is safe to do so, and when you do, please make sure that this is done slowly in accordance with both their guidelines and CDC guidelines.
04/15/2020 06:05 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Yvette Murphy	Money for early education centers. We want to be open but we need to make sure that centers are able to be open financially.
04/15/2020 06:13 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Shannon DeJohn	Please close schools for the remainder of the year to save lives. Do not listen to those asking you to sacrifice lives to reopen the economy. They are the misinformed selfish minority. Do the right thing. Also, please close public golf courses which are currently being abused as places for people to socialize without keeping a safe distance.
04/15/2020 06:30 PM	Education Working Group	Caroleen Hodge	Until we have a vaccine, we need to shelter in place. Until the most vulnerable—economically, physically—are protected, we need to shelter in place. Until we have a plan for health care for all our families and individuals who lack it, we need to shelter in place. Lives first!
04/15/2020 06:34 PM	Education Working Group	Mr Gary Hodgson	Please maintain the separation between individuals!
04/15/2020 07:50 PM	Education Working Group	Lisa Rigoni	Keep us all healthy. Do NOT open the state until we have a thoroughly detailed plan and access to testing & fast results. If you can ensure the vast majority us will not get sick by reopening, then do it. If you can't, then don't. I didn't vote you all in to potentially harm/kill me and others.
04/15/2020 08:22 PM	Education Working Group	Stay Home Amanda Gordon	We should not be in a hurry to lift the stay-at-home orders. We want this to end, not flare up. We may need to quarantine for all of May and possibly reevaluate after that. When the order is lifted, it should be slowly and not all at once.
04/15/2020 08:37 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Laurie Fox	The Washington Post dated 4/13/2020 reported that due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. Based on the experience from Covid-19, we are requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can

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04/15/2020 08:40 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Laurie Fox	<p>Dear Chairman Moore,</p> <p>The Washington Post dated 4/13/2020 reported that due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. Based on the experience from Covid-19, we are requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can occur again, wouldn't it make sense to develop and implement a system for all schools to use that would provide a continuation of education and related services for students, should the need arise? Continuity of education and related services for students should be a priority, as these young people are our future.</p> <p>Right now, as in many cities and communities throughout the US, not every child has access to a computer and / or the internet at home to be able to access distance-learning education. This needs to change, and can be by creating partnerships between the school system(s) and telecommunication. For example, MCPS in Maryland and FCPS in Virginia, school systems are partnering with telecommunication companies (Verizon, AT &T, etc...) to provide basic internet access in student homes that have no internet. School systems</p>

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04/15/2020 08:53 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Sandra Ricci	<p>Chairman Tim Moore, Covid-19 Committee, Attn: Covid-19 Education Subcommittee, NCGA</p> <p>Dear Chairman Moore</p> <p>The Washington Post dated 4/13/2020 reported that due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. Based on the experience from Covid-19, we are requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can occur again, wouldn't it make sense to develop and implement a system for all schools to use that would provide a continuation of education and related services for students, should the need arise? Continuity of education and related services for students should be a priority, as these young people are our future.</p> <p>Right now, as in many cities and communities throughout the US, not every child has access to a computer and / or the internet at home to be able to access distance-learning education. This needs to change, and can be by creating partnerships between the school system(s) and telecommunication companies. For example, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in Maryland and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in Virginia, school systems are partnering with telecommunication companies such as Verizon, and AT &T, to provide basic internet access in student homes that have no internet. School systems are loaning chromebooks (Acer computers) that are signed out to each student to be used during this remote distance learning period.</p> <p>The New York Times, and other businesses are offering support, access, and monies to communities that need help in setting up these distance-learning systems. MCPS and FCPS have been very creative in developing / presenting online curriculum using different programs and platforms, some of which include, but are not limited to Google Classroom,</p>

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04/15/2020 11:57 PM	Education Working Group	Jennifer	<p>I know people are hurting financially right now, but going backwards and reintegrating or opening schools and businesses too soon would be dangerous and shortsighted, I hope no changes will be made before ensuring we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Sufficient PPE for all health care workers +Sufficient testing for the state that isn't rationed and would give accurate number. <p>Please,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Stay the course with Gov. Cooper's stay at home order + Continue to fight for Medicaid expansion in NC + Unemployment claims processing access or issues are handled in a timely manner + Support for all first responders
04/16/2020 03:56 AM	Education Working Group	Ms. Karen Mallam	<p>The Washington Post dated 4/13/2020 reported that due to Covid-19, millions of students will suffer from school closures. Based on the experience from Covid-19, we are requesting that the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students by funding a supportive technology infrastructure for schools and students to develop a remote Distance – Learning Model. This model would make available a continuum of learning opportunities and services for students regardless of location, and socio-economic status, as part of NC's disaster preparation. With the possibility that occurrences like the COVID 19 can occur again, wouldn't it make sense to develop and implement a system for all schools to use that would provide a continuation of education and related services for students, should the need arise? Continuity of education and related services for students should be a priority, as these young people are our future.</p> <p>Right now, as in many cities and communities throughout the US, not every child has access to a computer and / or the internet at home to be able to access distance-learning education. This needs to change, and can be by creating partnerships between the school system(s) and telecommunication companies. For example, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in Maryland and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in Virginia, are partnering with telecommunication companies such as Verizon, and AT &T, to provide basic internet access in student homes that have no internet. School systems are loaning chromebooks (Acer computers) that are signed out to each student to be used during this remote distance learning period.</p>

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04/16/2020 06:15 AM	Education Working Group	Gwendolyn Sullivan	<p>As a high school English teacher, I can testify to the fact that we need to be very cautious about how we proceed with re-opening schools. 10th graders are not much better than 10-year-olds at practicing proper cleanliness (hand washing, covering sneezes and coughs, etc.). Putting 20, 25, 30, 35 students together in classrooms upon our return would mean creating great big petri dishes for this virus to thrive and spreading of the virus and therefore the disease like wildfire again. Whenever we re-open schools, it needs to be a gradual process, like an A-day B-day in-person model (half of the kids do in-person classes on A-days, the other half on B-days) with continued online learning in place. Also, the school day needs to be short to allow teachers time to plan and facilitate the online learning--a very important piece of the puzzle.</p>
04/16/2020 06:26 AM	Education Working Group	Barbara Anderson	<p>Please listen to the medical experts and roll out a phased in reopening with testing, testing testing. The restrictions have kept NC from being another New York state.</p>
04/16/2020 08:35 AM	Education Working Group	Ann Nichols	<p>We are fortunate in North Carolina that we have lower numbers of Covid 19 cases. But, we need massive testing in all counties across our state. Social distancing is working.</p>
04/16/2020 08:52 AM	Education Working Group	DR Joe Haas	<p>The jury is still out of how many parents will not be able to continue to afford tuition in nonpublic schools as a result of COVID-19. I have heard of some schools anticipating a 20% decrease in enrollment. If this happens in huge numbers, those students will be placed back in the public system potentially in large enough numbers that it will break the current budget for public schools. What is needed is a one-time emergency disaster COVID-19 grant could be included in the legislation (that is perhaps income-based) for parents who want to keep their children in nonpublic schools. In terms of costs, it would cost far less to give an emergency grant than for the state to have to come up with more money for public schools.</p>
04/16/2020 10:46 AM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Pamela Robbins	<p>Dear Mr. Tim Moore,</p> <p>During the Covid-19 pandemic millions of students nation wide are suffering due to school closures. I request the NCGA fund a major investment in NC students for supportive technology infrastructure for schools & students. The rural areas of NC suffer with lack of hospitals due to closures from no Medicaid expansion and then another assault with children not having access to take advantage of distance-learning. Other states are creating partnerships between school systems & telecommunication companies. Please address this very important issue with the funding required so that every child no matter of background & location has the same opportunity. These children are our future and</p>

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04/16/2020 11:32 AM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Carrie Zeigler	I am a daycare director that is still working on the front lines to make sure our parents that are still working on the front lines also have a place to make sure their children have a safe place to go while they are at work. I am urging you pass the legislation to expand Medicaid to cover the uninsured in our state. North Carolina is missing out on billions in federal health care dollars and we can not continue to loose out on these federal funds that will be a help to the hard working citizens of North Carolina.
04/16/2020 11:49 AM	Education Working Group	Daycare worker Rosa Mullen	We need to reopen NC ASAP. People need to work and pay their bills and get food for their families.
04/16/2020 11:52 AM	Education Working Group	Hudson Rice	It's time for the unconstitutional State shut down to end. Let the people make their own health decisions and the ones who do want to work, go back to work!
04/16/2020 11:52 AM	Education Working Group	Mr Dovid Berg	Reopen NC!
04/16/2020 11:54 AM	Education Working Group	Kjersti Warren	It is time to lift the shutdown order and let North Carolina open. The loss of lives due to despair will be far greater than any from Covid 19. The WHO still lists poverty as the number 1 cause of premature death. Suicides, drug overdoses, alcohol related deaths, homicides are all higher in NC than deaths due to or even projected from Covid 19. Do those lives NOT matter? The mental health affects on children will be immeasurable. Additionally we are still going off models that continue to be wrong. We can take reasonable measures to protect the most vulnerable without ruining the lives of millions - and most importantly millions of children.
04/16/2020 11:55 AM	Education Working Group	Mrs Heidi Falls	Please reopen NC. It is not my responsibility to accommodate immunocompromised individuals. Those at greater risk of complication, associated with the virus, have the freedom to stay home or take extra precaution. My family doesn't need to do that for them. My husband continues to go to work as normal each day (thank God) so what difference should it make if my kids play a sport, visit a playground etc. This makes no sense.
04/16/2020 11:59 AM	Education Working Group	Christy King	Please, allow businesses that can safely follow social distancing to reopen! My family has multiple health care needs we are overdue for that can't happen until dentists and eye doctors are allowed to reopen. They should have PPE and know how to use them. Numerous other small businesses would be willing and able to limit customers at any given time so that they can operate. Continued restrictions are hurting our economy! Hospitals are NOT overwhelmed, have not BEEN overwhelmed, and we have been well under the projections of hospitalizations since this started.
04/16/2020 12:01 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Amy Scoggins	Please reopen NC! Because people are financially struggling, family business will not be able to reopen the levels of depression, anger, increase in alcoholism, drug use, physical abuse and so much more are on the increase.' People to see their doctors, have surgeries that you do not consider necessary. I can't understand who or what gave our government the right to decide what is "essential" to individuals. This has created an economical disaster for NC and our country has a whole.

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04/16/2020 12:03 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Denise Morris	OPEN NC
04/16/2020 12:05 PM	Education Working Group	Vanessa Young	Please re open nc. This is detrimental to the state, to the economy and to the mental and emotional welfare of the people. NC must re open immediately.
04/16/2020 12:05 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Susan Moore	In order to assure that all citizens have the right to vote, please amend voting rules so that the NC Board of Elections is better able to respond to disasters such as a pandemic. Please make voting easier for all by providing an online portal where people would be able to request an absentee ballot. Please make voter registration available online for all eligible voters. Please assume the cost of mailing in absentee ballots to make the process easier for all.
04/16/2020 12:11 PM	Education Working Group	Reopen NC Julie Shrader	Reopen NC! Shutting down the economy does not stop the spread. Keep immune compromised, and elderly quarantined, if it is their choice. This is not constitutional!
04/16/2020 12:12 PM	Education Working Group	Lonnie Speagle	It's time to end this shut down and get back to normal. We the people are fed up with the abduction of our civil rights
04/16/2020 12:15 PM	Education Working Group	Merry Sadler	Reopen NC
04/16/2020 12:21 PM	Education Working Group	Anca De Leon	We need to reopen NC. Quarantine the sick and let the healthy folks back to work. Our bodies will build immunity and flatten the curve in a healthy way.
04/16/2020 12:22 PM	Education Working Group	Kristen Warner	Open NC!
04/16/2020 12:22 PM	Education Working Group	Kristi Saunders	It is time to reopen. Our country, our state cannot survive otherwise. Yes, we need to exercise caution and common sense. Those with compromised health issues should continue social distancing.
04/16/2020 12:26 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Kathy Chapman	North Carolinians need to be able to open their store fronts and citizens must be able to exercise all their constitutional rights. All business is essential business in that it supports their and their employees families, enabling them to pay vital bills and out food on their tables. Citizens of North Carolina are smart enough to think for ourselves and to make necessary decisions concerning our health care without government interference. I also believe the online school infrastructure that has already been set up should be left in place indefinitely for families who feel they are better served by having their children educated at home.
04/16/2020 12:30 PM	Education Working Group	Courtney Sanford	Open NC on May 1st. We'll observe guidelines in place for grocery stores and work from home if we can. Please open the endocrinologist and other doctors offices....other health problems need to be treated, too.
04/16/2020 12:33 PM	Education Working Group	Reopen NC Journie Eddy	I truly believe NC needs to be reopened. I dont care if there are restrictions, but small businesses are dying. People are not going to survive financially. Please let nc reopen may 1.
04/16/2020 12:35 PM	Education Working Group	Andrew Ashlock	I believe some common sense and reasoning is in order. We need to reopen our state. The conversation has been too one sided and skewed toward the virus with no attention given to those concerned about livelihoods and providing for families. We NEED to provide ways immediately to begin going back to work and trying to limit the damage that has already been done by these shutdowns. Yes, the virus is out there and can be contagious, but

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			equally as dangerous is the consequences of keeping people out of work. We must create a system in which we protect the high risk individuals while allowing the rest of us to move in with life. This system is not viable for much longer and soon the damage will not be able to repaired.
04/16/2020 12:35 PM	Education Working Group	Arlette Fulghum	I think that it is time to start opening things in our state back up. We cannot continue on the current path we are on. I work in child care and we are running at less than half enrollment because of parents that are out of work. If this continues we won't be able to stay open too much longer. Domestic violence and suicide are going to become a problem because people aren't able to take care of their bills and families and become frustrated and unable to deal wit it. I am all for keeping the high risk people safe as we should. But, everyone shouldn't be made to stay home to do that.
04/16/2020 12:39 PM	Education Working Group	Elisabeth Hudson	It's time to reopen the economy and schools! We are killing our small businesses, people's personal finances and most importantly our wonderful state! Even hospitals are closing! Our state medical systems are fine and this is not an epidemic- please open this state back up!
04/16/2020 12:42 PM	Education Working Group	June Hardison	I believe we should begin lifting restrictions and restoring the civil liberties of North Carolina residents, while at the same time taking precautions to protect the medically vulnerable. It is absolutely possible to do both at the same time. We need to get our people back to work! This is devastating our country in so many ways. It cannot continue without changing and undermining what makes America the great country that it is.
04/16/2020 12:46 PM	Education Working Group	Kassie Calvo	Close in person school for the rest of the school year. Extend the stay at home order until the end of May at the very least.
04/16/2020 12:49 PM	Education Working Group	Kimberly Gonzalez	Please do not consider fully reopening the state at this time. I believe it would have disastrous results and many more people will be in danger and we still run the risk of our healthcare system being overloaded. There is a quote circulating around social media to the effect of "reopening now is similar to stopping antibiotics because you are starting to feel better". I do agree I believe we need to phase in our reopening. I am a teacher and not just thinking for myself and my own children, but my first graders and their families as well.
04/16/2020 12:51 PM	Education Working Group	Karen Szypulski	<p>Please alter the recent decision that NC should be graded as pass-fail for this semester and, instead, make pass/fail grading a STUDENT SELECTED OPTION on a per class basis, decided at the end of the semester. This provides the only truly fair treatment of students and is what many universities, including Yale and UCLA, are doing. See: https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/28/us/coronavirus-college-pass-fail.html</p> <p>My biggest concern with making ALL classes pass/fail is that this will negatively impact students who have worked very hard this semester to build or bring up their GPA. For high school students, it will significantly impact their college opportunities and chances for scholarships which will have a life-long impact on those students. I am especially thinking of high school juniors who have been working especially hard to bring up their GPA after one past bad semester (for example, if there was a death or illness in the family during one semester) and those juniors who, after a couple of years of not taking school seriously, finally found the motivation to really dig in and bring up their GPA this year so they have the chance to get into a 4-year college. If these students don't get to keep the</p>

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			<p>grades they worked so hard for this semester, it may seriously jeopardize not only their chances for college, but also their motivation to continue working hard toward that goal next year. Similarly, high school freshman and sophomores who also have been working hard all semester have been counting on those good grades to provide a solid foundation for their GPAs going forward.</p> <p>The OPTION for pass/fail needs to be both per student and also per class. As NC schools switch to online/remote learning, some teachers will be better skilled at teaching in this new medium and some classes will be better suited for it. Allowing students to select on a per class basis which classes are recorded as pass/fail and which are recorded with an actual grade means that students will not be penalized for a particular class or teacher that is not well-suited to the new medium. It also means that students without the skills for learning in this new medium or access to the required technology will not be penalized. And, of course, students directly impacted by COVID-19 will not be penalized for an extended illness.</p> <p>Thank you for taking these very serious concerns into consideration. Please alter the current decision and make pass/fail grading a STUDENT SELECTION OPTION on a per class basis for this semester. At the very least, please make this change effective for all high school students since their GPA has a significant impact on the rest of their lives. And thank you for all your hard work during this unprecedented time!</p>
04/16/2020 12:52 PM	Education Working Group	Rebecca Faile	Open up NC! We are losing our businesses and our families are struggling!
04/16/2020 12:56 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Tara Sawyer	reopen nc
04/16/2020 01:03 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Lori Dulin	Please open NC up. We need to go back to a new normal of being safe and smart, but to open back up at the end of April! Thank you for helping our economy! Let's get back on the sports fields, back in the classrooms, back in restaurants and BACK IN CHURCH!
04/16/2020 01:05 PM	Education Working Group	American Patrick Bohanon	I believe we need to begin to responsibly open North Carolina up for business. Small businesses are being crushed under the weight of this.
04/16/2020 01:09 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Beverly Dudley	Our family is a strong supporter of reopen NC. Many businesses can reopen using proper safety measures. Schools can remain closed. Many families are very successful at home schooling, etc.
04/16/2020 01:10 PM	Education Working Group	Chelsea Malpass	Please reopen North Carolina. We can do it safely but keeping it closed will do more damage.
04/16/2020 01:12 PM	Education Working Group	Michelle Rath	It is imperative we end the shut down of NC on or before May 1st. There is much more to consider than just public health. Specifically, our citizens livelihoods, education, quality of life and liberty. Recent decisions have been made based on inaccurate data and this must end. The over reach of Government control must end. We the people will remember this come Election Day. Count on it.
04/16/2020 01:15 PM	Education Working Group	Tracy Moore	Please gradually reopen our State and let people go back to work. We can social distance and keep clean practices going just as easily while working. There is death anyway you look at it. M
04/16/2020 01:19 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Patricia Murphy	Reopen NC.

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04/16/2020 01:19 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Michelle VanGaasbeck	Reopen NC! Let people get back to work and seniors enjoy what little time they have left in high school.
04/16/2020 01:21 PM	Education Working Group	Dr. Mareva McDaniel	North Carolina should not "re-open" until it has met the six criteria outlined by WHO for safety. The first criteria is tesing. As it stands, NC has no real idea of the extent of viral spread and now idea how it has spread. Until the state can get a handle on those two basic things, re-opening would only risk more lives. It maks no sense to re-open at the cost of more lives. From a practical standpoint that would hurt the economy even more.
04/16/2020 01:21 PM	Education Working Group	Tiffany Sayers	North Carolina needs to return to work on May 1 , 2020. Our great state cannot maintain it's current level of shut down without dire, predictable, and other unforeseen consequences on so many levels. The impacts will affect each and every person. Our communities, churches, neighbors, and personal choices will be able to move forward successfully and handle the future repercussions. If you must chose to quarantine, then do so with the minority of the population of high risk individuals. Families, churches, communities, and neighbors (a.k.a the majority of the population) can then provide any necessary support for the high risk population by providing services, goods, and financial support. It would be less of a burden and lessen the impact on so many levels if we rallied and provided care for the minority of the population instead of providing financial support for every single person in North Carolina. Our state and federal government has a limited amount of money, NOT an UNlimited amount. #ReopenNC
04/16/2020 01:33 PM	Education Working Group	Samantha Daughtry	Please reopen NC! We understand there may be some conditions to maintain the healthy and safety but we need to get back to work! Loans and grants are great but our temporary to what will be a permanently problem if NC does not find a way to re-open. Our County has 5 cases and surrounding counties have very few as well. We should not be treated like large cities.
04/16/2020 01:34 PM	Education Working Group	Amy Fitzhenry	Open NC
04/16/2020 01:34 PM	Education Working Group	Stephanie Mccauley	Open NC now!
04/16/2020 01:36 PM	Education Working Group	K Cook	NC is in need to open... even if it's a soft opening!!
04/16/2020 01:38 PM	Education Working Group		Please open schools!!! These kids need to return to their classrooms, their teachers, their friends. They need that safe place at school to learn and grow. Don't let them slip further behind!!!!
04/16/2020 01:39 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Ginger Casbon	NC needs to be re-opened now!!! Keep the elderly and at risk people at home and let the healthy people get the state going again!
04/16/2020 01:44 PM	Education Working Group	Nathan Robbins	We need to reopen NC!
04/16/2020 01:45 PM	Education Working Group	Reopen NC Hayley Hamilton	I understand why we initially panicked about this novel virus. However as time has gone by it is very evident predictions were not accurate at all. The numbers are incredibly small. What this is doing to SO many families and businesses is absolutely unnecessary. The state needs to be reopened immediately. Of course caring for our most vulnerable and keeping them apart. PLEASE please do what is necessary to get us back to work. Thank you.

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04/16/2020 01:47 PM	Education Working Group	Reopen my state Stormie Speaks	It's time for our citizens to get back to work. There's no funding for small businesses. No unemployment and no stimulus check. Let us go back to work. Quarantine the sick.
04/16/2020 01:48 PM	Education Working Group	Gloria Bullock	Please push for extension of "shelter in place" order, although few children are contracting COVID-19, there are veteran teachers at risk. 2nd. Ask that landlords DO NOT INCREASE RENTS during this period. Thanks
04/16/2020 01:50 PM	Education Working Group	Angela Humphries	<p>Thank you for serving NCians!</p> <p>Education Savings Accounts/ESAs should be expanded so families can accomodate children who are thriving and learning well from one on one attention in the comfort of their homes. An amount as small as \$500 could make a huge difference for new homeschoolers in NC. The freedom to homeschool should be encouraged and incentives provided temporarily during covid-19.</p> <p>K-12 Scholarships should be expanded and application period opened prior to August 2020 and marketed as this is a more affordable way for the state to spend tax dollars on educating.</p> <p>Lift regulations limiting who may access these education tools.</p> <p>Encourage government schools to cut spending. Please do not suggest a state bond if government school LEAs apply pressure for capital funding. Buildings should be an afterthought and virtual, micro or homeschooling should be encouraged to flourish.</p> <p>Stay healthy .</p> <p>North Carolina School Choice Angela Humphries</p>
04/16/2020 01:51 PM	Education Working Group	Peter billings	re-open the economy. You are delaying the development of herd immunity. AND the shutdown is unconstitutional.
04/16/2020 01:52 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Fay Hoggard	Reopen NC!!! We are better than a shutdown!
04/16/2020 01:53 PM	Education Working Group	Teacher Kimberly Bellamy	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>Concerning the return to school when it opens back up for in person Instruction , will the General Assembly take into consideration those students, teachers and other staff members who are in high risk category including asthma, respiratory problems, autoimmune diseases, age, pregnant women, etc. Will there be a plan in place to insure that health isn't compromised while attending school and working in school for all persons in the high risk group due to covid 19 including myself ? This was brought up today in the State Board of education meeting for N.C. however it wasn't on the agenda. No action was taken today. I'm not sure who this action item would fall under for review. Thanks for your consideration to review this question.</p>
04/16/2020 01:57 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Stacy VanderMeeden	The current data for COVID is being suppressed and mishandled, making accuracy in ascertaining infection-numbers limited. Additionally, many doctors and epidemiologists are saying that we have handled this incorrectly and that organic herd immunity should

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			<p>have been used, allowing the virus to take its course and build immunity in the general population. Organic herd immunity allows for safely quarantining persons who are high-risk, while allowing low-risk persons to resume normal daily life and get the economy going again.</p> <p>Organic herd immunity has two benefits: it is necessary for building resistance to this virus and it also allows the economy to open up again.</p> <p>We are to return to normal, with all businesses open, by MAY 1st.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
04/16/2020 02:01 PM	Education Working Group	Kim Price	The detriments caused by COVID-19 to the health and health systems are now far outweighed by the negative effects on the economy and mental health of the state and most importantly, the educational and well-being of our kids. Re-open NC, re-open our schools and let us begin to reverse these effects. Temper the opening with sound judgment and rules, but let us get back to life.
04/16/2020 02:03 PM	Education Working Group	Jill Czysz	NC MUST be reopened!!! The numbers predicted and faced with today DO NOT justify the blatant disregard for the United States Constitution and our Civil Liberties. We live in a state of over 10 Million people and as of today 131 deaths of which MANY had underlying health issues....quarantine the sick and let the rest of us live. Prolonging these restrictions is illegal and at the detriment of YOUR CITIZENS
04/16/2020 02:07 PM	Education Working Group	Ann Ann Cox	Hairstylist can't take a hit like this and get no unemployment.. Or nothing.. One more month it will be a big blow.. And if Mr Roy Cooper want my vote open us hairstylist up.. May 1st..
04/16/2020 02:09 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Ashley Anthony	Please open up NC... even hospitals are laying off and cutting hours. With common sense measures in place, we can all get back to work.
04/16/2020 02:14 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Sherri Morris	Please re-open N C and let the people decide for themselves how to proceed.
04/16/2020 02:14 PM	Education Working Group	Denise Hardgrove	Re-open NC
04/16/2020 02:16 PM	Education Working Group	Susan Greene	The shut down is working and we need to stay the course. Reopening too early will repeat the Spanish flu second wave. It's hard, but more sick and dying people is worse.
04/16/2020 02:18 PM	Education Working Group	Teacher Assistant Tammy Styles	Open the businesses and schools. This situation is stressful for parents, in-turn putting some children in emotionally/physically unstable homes. The trauma of domestic violence and parents suffering from mental health disparity will cause lasting affects for these children. Vulnerable people can protect themselves from covid 19 by social distancing or volunteer quarantine. Children cannot protect themselves from volatile situations of domestic violence, drug/alcohol dependent parents, or parents suffering mental health crisis. There is also the consideration of families who are food insecure, and families that will be displaced because they will not be able to financially recover from the loss of work. The economy is not my concern. The children are my concern, and this shut down will impact them for years and years to come.
04/16/2020 02:19 PM	Education Working	Erin Tew	Reopen NC!!!!!! People are ready to work!!

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04/16/2020 02:20 PM	Education Working Group	Priscilla Mellon	Our students are suffering more now than from this virus that has more than a 97% success rate. Our kids are telling us this remote learning is not teaching them anything. They miss their schools, their teachers, their friend. The emotional and education toll this setting these kids back for the next several years. Reopen our schools please.
04/16/2020 02:28 PM	Education Working Group	Jamie Gunter	We are keeping this state closed based on a minimal population when the majority of the population is suffering. We must reopen our state for the well-being of all! Why can't those who choose to stay home be able to do so while the rest of us work?!?!
04/16/2020 02:28 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Jennifer Douglas	Gov. Cooper has done excellent t job keeping NC citizens safe. We cannot undo the good we have done without proper structures in place. I trust he will make a solid decision.
04/16/2020 02:33 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Amy Howard	We need to open up businesses and restaurants so we can move on with our lives. We cannot stay closed until this completely goes away. Life must go on.
04/16/2020 02:48 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Cindy Marion	I am a Child Nutrition Director in Yadkin County. Our program and it's employees went to work Saturday the 14th to get a meals program going for families and have kept it up an running full blasts serving over 6,000 meal each day. The state has not invested in child nutrition programs , yet we have always answered the call when needed for emergency feeding. Please give us a per plate reimbursement that can will be earmarked for employee salaries. Our employees are some of the lowest paid in the state and no state money comes to our program for there salaries currently. This will help to keep these programs viable and serving children now and for years to come.
04/16/2020 02:55 PM	Education Working Group		We need to reopen our state to build back up the economy and moral. Many of us had this virus early this year and got through it just fine. The economy crashing is way worse than this sickness. I am a teacher and our kids need stability back at school. Many are at home in less than ideal conditions. A 10 year old just got admitted to the mental hospital because she couldn't handle the lack of routine and stability. Thousands can't afford to feed themselves or their families. Food is a need. This virus is low on the totem pole when compared to food and safety from abusive homes. My husband is a fireman and owns a small business. We see it from many sides and the virus is not a major concern because majority of people get over it just like the flu and other viruses. We won't just get over the economy. There are 0 people in Guilford county's hospital with covid as of Monday. Remove the quarantine!